

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Docket No.01-059-A)

In The Application of:)

Robert P Ryall)

Serial No.: 10/054,638)

Filed: January 22, 2002)

For: Multivalent Meningococcal Polysaccharide)
Protein Conjugate Vaccine)

Examiner: Jeffrey Olsen

Group Art Unit: 1645

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2/12/03

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the Office action mailed October 28, 2002, Paper No. 8, which imposed a restriction of the pending claims, 1-16. Claim 17 is said to be improperly dependent and/or improperly drafted.

Remarks✓

Applicants hereby elect group I of the restriction, drawn to claims 1-8 and 10-16, a vaccine or composition comprising meningococcal capsular polysaccharide-protein conjugates.

Applicants cancel claims 9 and 17 without prejudice. Claim 9 is the only claim of group II of the restriction, a method of inducing an immunological response using the same. Applicants note the remarks regarding the form of claim 17, which is dependent on claim 9. Although claim 17 is specifically omitted from the restriction, because it depends from claim 9, Applicant's assume that it was intended to be made part of group II and will treat it accordingly.

A new Power of Attorney was filed on January 7, 2003 in the instant application and request that all future correspondence is sent directly to the undersigned attorney.

Aventis Pasteur Inc.
Discovery Drive
Swiftwater, PA 18370

Serial No. 10/054,638
Attorney Docket No. 01-059-A

Finally, the Attorney Docket No. was changed from "01-059-A" to "API-01-059-US" and Applicants would appreciate confirmation that the new Attorney Docket No. is changed in the PALM system and used in all future correspondence.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of the pending claims.

If there are any questions or comments regarding this Response or application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Payne

T. Helen Payne
Registration No. 36,889

Date: January 27, 2003

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